**MINUTES OF THE BORNO FOOD SECURITY SECTOR MEETING**

**Location:** Borno State Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources (MoANR), Conference Room  
**Date:** 17 December 2019  
**Time:** 10:05am – 12:06pm

**AGENDA**

1. Welcome, Opening Remarks and Round of introductions (5 min)
2. Review of action points and approval of minutes of the previous meeting (5 min)
3. Updates on RESILAC - Lake Chad Inclusive Economic and Social Recovery Project, by AAH (15 min)
4. Discussion on 2019 rainy season agriculture campaign post-harvest findings (20 min)
5. Discussion on planning for 2020 rainy season agriculture campaigns (15 min)
6. Updates on Joint FSS - WFP - FEWS NET - NPFS/PCU Comprehensive Market Assessment (10 min)
7. Sector updates (20 min)  
   a. Humanitarian Program Cycle 2020  
   b. Preparation for March 2020 Cadre Harmonise Analysis  
   c. Rann
8. Presentation on the Results of October 2019 CH analysis, by Borno CH Coordinator and the Sector (25 min)
9. Partner updates (15 min)  
   a. Government stakeholders (MoA, NEDC, NEMA, SEMA, MRRR, NCFRMI, etc.)  
   b. Others
10. AOB (5 min)

**SUMMARY OF ACTION POINTS**

1. Sector to give a dedicated briefing session with the new Borno MoA Permanent Secretary
2. Sector to facilitate the discussion on which potential areas for agriculture activities in 2020 in Agriculture and Livelihood WG meetings
3. Sector with support from partners to revise the harmonization guidance notes
4. Sector to provide updates on partners covering the food gaps in the informal settlements in MMC areas
5. Sector to finalize the list of FSS focal points for key LGAs in Borno State and share the ToR
6. Sector to share the partners’ Lessons Learnt on Poultry, Cattle/Sheep/Goats
7. Sector to share the Expression of Interest and draft TOR for the position of FSS Co-coordinator/NGO Co-Lead
8. WFP to share EFSA findings

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| 1  | Welcome Opening Remarks and Round of introductions  
   • The meeting was opened by the Chair and followed by self-introductions.  
   • The new Permanent Secretary for MoANR, Mr. Bulama Gana was in attendance for the first time. He greeted the partners and emphasized the need for continuous collaboration to ensure the sector partners’ response feed into/align with the government plans. | |
| 2  | Review of action points and approval of previous minutes | Pending items from the meeting will be part of |
1. AAH to share the full report of the Cost of Diet Analysis in Yobe State – Pending
2. Sector with support from partners to revise the harmonization guidance notes – Pending
3. Sector to follow up on the FSL glossary translation with WFP/TWB – Ongoing
4. NEDC to provide confirmation on covering the food gaps in the informal settlements in MMC areas – Removed with the latest updates.
5. Sector to finalize the list of FSS focal points for key LGAs in Borno State and share the ToR – Ongoing
6. Sector to share the partners’ Lessons Learnt on Poultry, Cattle/Sheep/Goats – Ongoing
7. Sector to share the Expression of Interest and draft TOR for the position of FSS Co-coordinator/NGO Co-Lead - Ongoing
8. WFP to share EFSA findings by the end of November - Pending
9. MoANR to follow up with government stakeholders to regularly attend the sector meetings – Ongoing. SEMA is present. The chair conveyed NEMA apologies. The chair will also present the updates shared by NEMA.

After the review, the minutes of the meeting held on 13th November was adopted.

3

**Presentation on the Economic and Social inclusive recovery project for the Lake chad (RESILAC)**


**Success:**
- Engaging government, communities in a humanitarian dominated response
- Building on government foundations
- Community feedback mechanism helped in reshaping the intervention
- Public-Private Partnerships

**Challenges:**
- Access to working areas
- Lack of a coordination forum for developmental partners

**Discussion**
- More clarity was given on the loan facility by the poverty eradication scheme for 15-25 people, where people can obtain loan for business based on agreed statements and fund for social engagement is set aside. The loan was clarified to be sharia-compliant.
- For the security of the money: the money is saved in a metal box with 3 keys for 3 different persons who have to open the box in the presence of others. Previously reported loss was due to OAG attacks.
- There are also check and balance to manage the saving via social fund or the loan fund. The social fund can be used for social activities like wedding while loan fund for business.

the action points for the next meeting
Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) is used to monitor the funds and to ensure payback. A member cannot get another loan without paying the previous ones.

### Discussion on 2019 rainy season agriculture campaign post-harvest findings &
Discussion on planning for 2020 rainy season agriculture campaigns

#### a. Presentation by CRS on their preliminary findings: Post Harvest Survey, Borno and Yobe States November 2019
- This survey was conducted in November 2019 in Borno and Yobe States.
- CRS supported 5,654 HHs. 3,601 HHs in Yobe (Gujba and Gulani LGAs) and 2,053 HHs in Borno (Magumeri and Gubio LGAs).
- All farmers were supported by OFDA funding leveraging FFP funding

**Support Provided on**
- Technical training on crop production covering
  - Land preparation
  - Seed selection
  - Planting
  - Weeding
  - Harvesting and post-harvest technics
- Establishment of Demonstration plots
- Farming inputs
  - Crop and vegetable Seeds
  - Farming tools
  - Storage bags (PICS)
- Major Seed chosen by Farmers: 86%
  ❖ Millet
  ❖ Sorghum
  ❖ Groundnuts
  ❖ Sesame
  ❖ Cow peas

**Practices/technologies adopted by farmers for IPDM:**
- 35% of the respondents used ash to control pest
- 23% practiced Crop rotation
- 11% used PICS (Purdue Improved Crop Storage) bags to prevent grain damage by pest
- 11% weeded their farms
- 3% timely harvested

**Yields by farmers:**
- Harvest was reported as enough to cover 3.5 months for Borno and Yobe respectively by 67% of the farmers surveyed

**Challenges for poor harvest faced by the farmers include:**
- Animals devoured farms

CRS to share detailed report with partners on its Post-Harvest Survey findings when it is finalized

There is need for advocacy to enable farmers access to more land for agricultural purposes.
• Pest Infestation beyond the defense of IPM
• Insecurity (farms not safe to access)
• Long rainfall cycle affected the early maturity of crops

**Recommendations**
• Support farmers for more than one season
• Linking farmers to markets
• Linking Nutrition activities and other complimentary activities with Agriculture activities

**Discussions**
• The findings were based on selected beneficiaries across the target states (5,654 farmers)
• CRS will share more detailed report which will provide further clarification on the followings:
  - pest type and degree of effects; and yield per unit area of crop per farmer
• It was clarified that the project was to use Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for control of pests. Chemicals were avoided.
• The forecasting for this year raining season did not tally with actual rainfall, hence this affected the farmers who have planned based on the forecasted report
• Limited/reducing access to land for agricultural purposes due to insecurity and military restriction hence there is a need for more advocacy to reach the national government to allow to access to more land by farmers.
• Lack of fertilizer for farming: Among solid fertilizer options, currently wet blended brown partical NPK fertilizer is allowed for seeking clearance.
• There is a need for partners to start planning for the next rainy season’s farming activities to mitigate risks of duplication as early as at the planning stage.
• The current FAO needs assessment indicates that there is a huge potential for farming activities in Biu and its environs due to good market access for Borno state.
• FAO is looking at improving the value chain, as well as market accessibility within southern Borno (Biu and its surrounding areas) especially around Biu dam which has potential for both dry and wet season farming for vegetable production. There is also good potential for agriculture in Kwaya Kusar and Hawul.
• Partners highlight again the urgent need for increased advocacy for access to land for farming.

**Comprehensive FSS partners/WFP/FEWSNET/PCU-NPFS Market Assessment in Northeast and Northwesr, Nigeria 2019**

**Assessment**
• 8 states were covered: Adamawa, Borno, Gombe, Jigawa, Kaduna, Kastina, Kano, and Yobe
• 48 markets were purposively selected and covered
• 51 market leaders/chairman interviewed
• 271 Traders (Retailers and Wholesalers) interviewed.
• 48 for transporters interviewed
## Expected Outcomes

- Assess markets functionality in northern Nigeria
- Collect prices for food and Non-food items (NFIs)
- Update the MEB for NE States based on prices of food and NFIs
- Inform humanitarian partners & government on the feasibility of CBT in areas of coverage
- Provide information for supply chain and procurement experts
- Determine the impact of the border closer on trade in cereals/key staples

## Next steps

- Data analysis Dec 2019-January 2020
- Analysis workshop Jan 2020
- Validation workshop Jan 2020
- Report writing in Jan/Feb 2020

## Discussion

- There is a need to have more states covered such as Jos and Taraba, however, this is due to limited funds and resources.
- The assessment also take into consideration the seasonality of crops and price variations.

### Sector updates

#### a. Humanitarian Program Cycle 2020

**HRP 2020 updates**

- 3.3 M People Targeted (2020) vs. 2.7 M (2019)
- $223 M vs. $264 M (2019)
- 18 Partners in HRP 2020 (2 UN/ 11 INGOs/5 NNGOs)
  1. Action Contre la Faim
  2. Adventist Development and Relief Agency
  3. CARE International
  4. Catholic Caritas Foundation of Nigeria
  5. Catholic Relief Services
  6. Christian Rural and Urban Development Association of Nigeria
  7. Cooperazione Internazionale - COOPI
  8. Food & Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
  9. Green Concern for Development
  10. International Centre for Energy, Environment and Development
  11. Kanem Borno Human Development Association
  12. Mercy Corps
  13. Première Urgence Internationale
  14. Salient Humanitarian Organization
  15. Solidarités International (SI)
  16. TEARFUND
  17. World Food Programme
  18. ZOA

Sector to facilitate the discussion on which potential areas for agriculture activities in 2020 in Agriculture and Livelihood WG meetings.
FSS Strategic objective 2 (SO2 Agriculture & Livelihood) target:

- FSS Strategic objective 2 (SO2 Agriculture & Livelihood) target is based on Phase 3 of CH October 2019 Projection for the June – August 2020. However, in Borno further analysis was done taking into consideration SO2 achievements in 2018/2019.
- Recent EFSA indicates that there are significant restriction and limitation to implement agriculture and livelihood activities due to limited access to arable land and increased incidence of insecurity. Land access in Borno households reduced by approximately 10 percent from 61.0 percent in October 2018 to 51.4 percent in October 2019.
- Land access reduced significantly in LGAs such as Monguno (46.4 percent), Gwoza (17.9 percent), Konduga (17.5 percent), Dikwa (9.4 percent) and Bama (7.1 percent), Bayo (28.3 percent), Gubio (19.5 percent), Askira Uba (17.6 percent), Hawul (15.7 percent) and Kala Balge (13.8 percent).
- There is increased competition for arable land and military restriction would potentially reduce the size of plot that could be cultivated by conflict-affected households in these areas.
- Access to farmland as well reduced in some areas of Yobe and Adamawa as seen in the cases of Geidam (27.3 percent) and Numan (22.9 percent) due to the ongoing hostilities and communal conflict between herdsmen and farmers respectively.

b. Cadre Harmonise Trend Analysis since 2016
• There is 72% increase from October to December 2018 post-harvest period findings
• Deterioration of the food security situation for accessible population in several LGAs in Borno particularly in Magumeri, Bama, Jere and Gwoza.
• The deterioration in the food security situation is linked to the upsurge of insecurity as evident in renewed attacks by non-state armed groups (NSAGs) which have led to a new wave of displacements, limited access to farming and grazing land essential for livelihood opportunities.
• The increase include as well a better appreciation of Inaccessible population during the October 2019 analysis for Borno
• Most LGAs with pronounced levels of deterioration in the food security situation already captured in FSS partners’ ongoing response and plans for 2020. Partners require to
maintain ongoing assistance as planned with close monitoring of the food security situation in coordination with the government.

- Hot spot areas:
  I. Borno: Bama, Magumeri, Mobbar, Monguno, Nganzai, Gubio
  II. Yobe: Bade, Geidam, Gujba and Gulani
  III. Areas in Yobe with concerning findings are affected by longstanding, non-conflict related issues e.g. Fika, Fune, Karasuwa, Nangere.

c. Discussion on preparation for March 2020 Cadre Harmonise Analysis

- Members: WFP, FAO, FEWS NET, REACH, Nutrition Sector, IOM-DTM and Government CH colleagues
- In the process of finalizing the particular methodology for food security and nutrition data collection to support CH analysis for inaccessible areas.
- The exercise aims at building on existing data collection infrastructure without reinventing the wheel.
- 18 Nov: Taskforce Skype meeting
- 26 Nov: Nutrition Sector shared their MUAC screening data collection tool and methodology for new arrivals from inaccessible/H2R areas
- 11 Dec: A first draft of a methodology paper was shared by REACH
- By 17 Dec: Key technical partners review and provide feedback before the draft is presented and shared with all members of the Taskforce

e. Rann

- **Food security situation:** Households reported that the food security situation has deteriorated mainly attributed to the lack of food aid or cash transfer received from either the government or the humanitarian community. Also large swathes of farmland are flooded, further making the situation in Rann critical. Women said, they survived by digging ant hills and collecting remains of food/grains stored away by ants. This stored food/grains is cooked and eaten. Many IDP households rely on food rations from the military.

- **Agricultural Production:** Access to land is challenging, as farming activities can only be done within a safe distance of 2-3 km from Rann town. This is due to security risk of attacks on farm lands. Lands were given to some IDPs by the host community and Bulamas (community leaders), however the IDPs reported that only 20% have access to land. The average farm size cultivated is estimated at 0.5 hectares compared with pre-crisis period when households cultivated an average of 5-6 hectares. FGDs indicated that about 80% of these farmlands are affected by the recent flooding.

- **Markets:** Rann market which operates on Thursdays and patronized by customers from Rann, Cameroon and Ngala is now partially functional with a couple of traders displaying their wares due to access constraints. Before the floods the market in Rann is accessible throughout the year with major supplies of staples gotten from Gamboru/Ngala and Bodo market, the major staples are rice, maize, beans and sorghum in order of their importance.

- **Infrastructure:** The major challenge residents face is road access, as the roads leading into Rann remain inaccessible for 3 to 4 months during the rainy season or for longer periods when water is released from the Cameroon dam causing flooding on the major
roads, hindering movement in or out of Rann. The general surroundings are remote characterized by very poor infrastructures including bad and untarred roads that further contribute in the delay in delivery of commodities. There are no established markets with permanent buildings, the market is primarily an open space with wooden sheds and few stalls (temporal features) without public power supply. Generators are used for livelihood activities by few individuals who can afford them.

- The rapid need assessment in Rann shows that food insecurity appears to be higher among households who have no access to land. Flood and no/limited income opportunity will further increase the vulnerability to food insecurity coupled with soaring inflation in the market prices that will have a negative impact on the purchasing power of households. Based on the findings, it is evident that there is an urgent need for general food assistance for the IDP's and host communities in Rann.

- The state govt. distributed cash in 08 Dec.: 3,700 Male HHs received 6,000 Naira and 3,000 Naira for female HHs. The number for female couldn’t be confirmed because of no registration.

The sector is looking at the market response to the cash injected by the govt distribution in order to determine the most appropriate modality to employ in Rann as well as working on identifying another transport route to Rann. Food stock of both govt. and WFP are currently in Ngalia, waiting for the road to Rann to be accessible.

### Partner updates

**AISVIP**: In collaboration with IOM conducted training in briquette production in Pulka (10), Gwoza (10), and MMC (20) for 40 beneficiaries

**IDS (with VSF)**: Dry season agriculture intervention implemented in Chibok for 5 communities across 1000 households, where agro inputs such as onion seeds, pepper seeds, water pumps, etc. were distributed to beneficiaries

**NEMA**
- Door to door distribution of food items to 6 IDP camps, 3 host communities outside Maiduguri, 6 host communities across Maiduguri and Jere completed for November.
- Food items distributed to a family of six are: bean, rice vegetable oil, tomatoes, Maggi cubes, and salt
- NEMA/SEMA intervention have also been completed in Askira/Uba, Damboa, Mafa and Karasuwa, Nguru in Yobe State while distribution in Geidam, Bursa, Yunusari, Gulani and Guja are upcoming.
- Intervention currently going on for the month of December, 5 locations completed already.

### AOB

- **HE. Borno MoANR Commissioner’s message via the Director of Planning**
  Based on the last meeting at the Government house, where the EU funded partners briefed the Governor, the Commissioner directed that all activities must be done in synergy with the Ministry. There is a need to come together to design a road map to avoid duplication of efforts and intervention.
Sector responded that the FSS, on behalf of partners, will share information on all partner activities which is already in the sector’s IM products and invite govt stakeholders to the sector/WG meetings.

- A minute of silence for the loss of AAH colleagues

CLOSING: With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:06pm. The next meeting date will be confirmed due to holiday season at the end/beginning of the year.

IN ATTENDANCE: 37 partners were in attendance - 50 individuals (8 Females & 42 Males)

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